

THE PARABLES—Part 3

Matthew 9:10-17; Mark 2:15-22; Luke 5:29-39

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1. Because Jesus was focused on God's agenda, it caused confusion among people who had predetermined what God's Messiah should act like. This difference of perspective constantly set the stage for confrontation and clarification.
2. *Mt 9:11* The Pharisees could not understand how Jesus, who claimed to be a religious man, could associate with irreligious people.
3. *Mt 9:12-13* Jesus posed the question: Why were the "healthy" doing nothing to bring healing to the sick?
4. *Mk 2:18* John's disciples showed sincere concern and confusion about Jesus' activities because He did not conform to the accepted, normal religious standards.
5. *Mt 9:14* Over time, tradition had taken over and demanded fasting twice a week (Luke 18:12) instead of just once a year on the Day of Atonement.
6. *Mt 9:14* The Pharisees did not see a relationship with God as a matter of humility, repentance, or forgiveness, but as a matter of ceremony.
7. *Mt 9:14* Ritual has always been a danger to true godliness.
8. *Mt 9:14* Religiosity is a menace and a stumbling block to a genuine walk with Jesus Christ:
 - It is a menace because it will cause someone who does not know any better to think that is the way to get to God.
 - It is a stumbling block because it causes the one caught up in 'religiosity' to believe they are actually doing something to earn their way to God's favor.
9. *Mt 9:15* The fasting was out of harmony with what God was really doing in their midst.

SONG TITLES

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